Setting up of Paper Mills in NER

*339. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up paper mills in the State of Meghalaya and other parts of the NER.

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether Government are exploring the possibility of establishing any paper industry in the NER ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) The Government has no proposal to establish a paper mill in public sector in the State of Meghalaya or any other part of the North Eastern Region (NER). Paper Industry has been delicenced and Entrepreneurs are only required to file an Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum (IEM) with the secretariat for Industrial Assistance in the Ministry. As, for setting up a paper mill, no licence is required except in terms of locational policy notified by the Government or if the proposal does not envisage manufacture of items reserved for small scale sector.

Entrepreneurs have filed four IEMs to set up paper mills in NER for manufacture of paper and paper products.

Export Promotion Park in Mangalore

*340. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has sought clearance for setting up an export promotion park in Mangalore;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that land acquisition has already been taken up by the Karnataka Government; and

(c) whether Government will give clearance early ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka had sought approval of the Central Government for setting up of a second Export